PEIVED

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<u>PATENT</u>

TECH CENTER 1500/2900 Docket No. 2629-4005US1

TECH CENTER 1500/2900

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Lorincz, T. et al.

Group Art Unit: 1631

Serial No.

09/210.031

Examiner: Siu. S.

Filed

December 11, 1998

For

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UNIVERSAL COLLECTION MEDIUM

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Box AF COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed July 21, 2000, applicants present the following remarks. Claims 1-27 are pending in the applications. Claims 1-20 and 24-27 stand allowed. Claims 21-23 stand rejected. Claims 21-23 and 28 are presented for review and consideration on the merits. Applicants present herewith a Notice of Appeal.

CLAIM AMENDMENT

21. (Amended) An article of manufacture for preserving a cell sample of limited cell number comprising:

a container holding [less than 2 ml of] the medium according to claim 20 and wherein the volume of the medium is less than 2 ml; and

a lid fitting said container.